

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-2 and 5-6 have been amended. Claims 15-17 and 22-23 have been cancelled without prejudice. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-6 and 8-9 are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-6, 8-9, 15-17 and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gao, U.S. Patent No. 6,581,094 (“Gao”), in view of Using Network Discovery Architecture (Chapter 8), Microsoft Corp., (“Microsoft”).

Applicant respectfully submits that Gao discloses a browser on a display device which is used to “display the contents of the UDD file, including identity attributes, system attributes, geography attributes.” Further, a visual page is provided to allow a “user to interact with a displayed UDD file.” (col. 11, lines 25-36). Gao further discloses executing “[a] method executed by *one or more digital devices operating in a networked environment includes . . . storing a network address for each digital device in a set of digital devices within a networked environment . . . [and a] Uniform Device Descriptor file is associated with each digital device of the set of digital devices.*” (Abstract; emphasis provided). Gao further discloses “[t]he *server preferably includes a search module . . . [to facilitate] searches for specified digital devices within the networked environment . . . [and] the routing module operates to deliver a specified UDD file to a selected digital device within the networked environment so that the UDD file may be visually displayed on the selected digital device.*” (col. 3, lines 42-51; emphasis provided).

Microsoft discloses a “[n]etwork discovery [that] discovers subnets, creates discovery data records (DDRs) for network devices that have a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) agent, and learns how they are connected. During topology discovery, Network Discovery first connects to the local router to collect IP addresses from its ipRoutNextHop routing table.” (page 2, topology section).

In contrast, claim 1, in pertinent part, recites “receiving discovery information from the plurality of third-party Internet search engines . . . and using the retrieved discovery information to generate a network topology map for the one or more network devices.” (emphasis provided). Applicant submits that neither Gao nor Microsoft teach or reasonably suggest such a feature. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

Claim 5 includes limitations similar to those of claim 1. Thus, for the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 5 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gao in view of Vaishnavi, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,734,642 (“Vaishnavi”).

Claim 17 has been cancelled thus obviating this rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

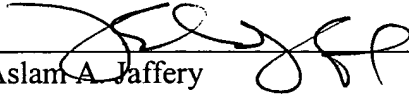
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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